

# PARENTS:

## Help your child develop a career plan!



**A** career-ready person effectively navigates pathways that connect education and employment to achieve a fulfilling, financially secure, and successful career. In an ever-changing global economy, students must be adaptable and be committed to lifelong learning. Career readiness starts with engaging classroom and work-based experiences that allow a student to master academic skills, employability skills, and job-specific technical skills. Students apply what they have learned by solving real-world problems alongside professionals through job shadowing, internships, youth apprenticeships, and community service projects.

**“Career readiness has no defined endpoint.”**

— Career Readiness Partner Council

## R U College and Career Ready?



The Virginia Department of Education's annual career exploration magazine is available at [www.cteresource.org](http://www.cteresource.org).

**Learn more . . .**

Virginia Career VIEW:

[vacareerview.org](http://vacareerview.org)

Virginia Education Wizard:

[vawizard.org](http://vawizard.org)

Virginia Career Clusters:

[Careertech.org/career-clusters/](http://Careertech.org/career-clusters/)

***“If you are a parent, be an active partner in your child's education.”***

— Patricia I. Wright, Ed. D.  
Superintendent of Public Instruction

***“It is so important to share with your children all of the options they have available to them as part of their education. I believe my son's experiences in career and technical classes prepared him for success in college, work, and lifelong learning. Parents, help your child to explore!”***

— Anne Carson  
President, Virginia PTA



PATHWAYS TO COLLEGE  
AND CAREER READINESS

Help your child to investigate careers and plan their courses of study.

1. Agriculture, Food & Natural Resources
2. Architecture & Construction
3. Arts, Audio/Video Technology & Communications
4. Business Management & Administration
5. Education & Training
6. Finance
7. Government & Public Administration
8. Health Science
9. Hospitality & Tourism
10. Human Services
11. Information Technology
12. Law, Public Safety, Corrections & Security
13. Manufacturing
14. Marketing
15. Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics
16. Transportation, Distribution & Logistics



© 2013 Commonwealth of Virginia Department of Education

The Virginia Department of Education does not discriminate on the basis of race, sex, color, national origin, religion, age, political affiliation, veteran status, or against otherwise qualified persons with disabilities in its programs and activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups.

# How can parents help?

**Have your child answer the following questions:**

**What are your favorite school subjects?**

**What school activities do you enjoy most?**

**What hobbies and interests are most valuable to you?**

**What achievements make you most proud?**

**What careers most interest you?**

## Guide your child through the following:

**STEP 1:** Take a career interest assessment in middle school.

**STEP 2:** Identify interest in one or more career clusters.

**STEP 3:** Relate school subjects to career interests.

**STEP 4:** Understand how middle school subjects relate to jobs and careers.

**STEP 5:** Create an academic and career plan in middle school.